

EDGE LANE AND CLAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

November Magazine 2023

Minister: Revd. Joy Rulton

Preachers/Lectionary Readings

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| 5th Nov | 11:00am | Rev. Joy Rulton (HC) | Joshua Ch 3 v 7 – 17 Psalm 107 v 1-7, 33 – 37 1 Thessalonians Ch 2 v 9- 13 Matthew Ch 23 v 1 - 12 |
| 12th Nov Remembrance Sunday | 11:00am | Mr Bernard Treves-Brown | Joshua Ch 24 v 1 – 3a; 14-25 Psalm 78 v 1-17 1 Thessalonians Ch 4 v 13-18 Matthew Ch 25 v 1-13 |
| 19th Nov | 11:00am | Rev. Ade Kila | Judges Ch 4 v 1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians Ch 5 v 1 - 11 Matthew Ch 25 v 14-30 |
| 26th Nov Gift Day | 11:00am | Rev. Joy Rulton | Ezekiel Ch 34 v 11 -16, 20-24 Psalm 95 v 1-7a Ephesians Ch 1 v 15 -23 Matthew Ch 25 v 31 -46 |
| 3rd Dec Advent Sunday | 11:00am | Mrs Liz Stuart | Isaiah Ch 64 v 1 – 9 Psalm 80 v 1-7, 17– 19 1 Corinthians Ch 1 v 3- 9 Mark Ch 13 v 24 - 37 |

Dear Friends,

The year is moving on swiftly. Harvests are over, the clocks have turned back, and evenings are drawing in. Autumn is well and truly here. In November we come to Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and the beginning of Advent. It's not always easy to hold on to the pattern of the year when you visit the local garden centre and have your coffee already accompanied by "Rock around the Christmas Tree" playing over the speakers!

Bonfire night falls on the first weekend in November this year. It commemorates the failure of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, when conspirators, who were zealous Roman Catholics enraged at King James I for refusing to grant greater religious tolerance to Catholics, attempted to blow up the Palace of Westminster. Later, Parliament declared November 5 a National Day of Thanksgiving, and the first celebration of it took place in 1606. There was even a service in the Book of Common Prayer 1662 for November 5th.

In the winter, our family will sometimes sit outside in the dark round a fire tray. It's a lovely place to talk or to just sit and watch the flames, dancing wherever the wind takes them.

In the Bible, God is described as a consuming fire:

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:28-29



The word "consuming" can have different meanings. In Scripture, fire can be used as a form of judgment but it also symbolizes both refining and purifying, but also death and destruction. Fire often appears as a symbol of God's presence. Remember Moses and the burning bush, and the pillar of fire that led the Israelites by night. John the Baptist said of Jesus, "*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*" Matthew 3:11 When the Holy Spirit came, she rested as "*Tongues of fire*", Acts 2, on the heads of the believers.

Fire can cleanse, purify, warm, and provide light. Perhaps this November, we could let the fire of the Holy Spirit burn within us, helping us to be the people Jesus would have us be, ready and willing to serve him, wherever he leads.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay".

CHURCH NOTICES

As we move into November, well into Autumn, we continue to see the beautiful colours that nature creates for us and thank our God for his beautiful world which lifts our spirits in this very difficult time of so much conflict, war and oppression.

News Of Friends

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are not well in body, mind or spirit and for those in hospital and those awaiting appointments and treatments. We name especially David, Linda, Jean H, Jean W, Val, Betty, Harry, Joan P, Peter, Jean W, and add our own names to these. We ask the Lord that He will give you the strength and fortitude needed and that you know that He is with you and supporting you in these worrying times.

Sad News

It is with great sadness that we announce our dear member and friend, John, passed away at home in October after a few weeks of failing health.

John was a member at Clayton and latterly Edge Lane and Clayton for 71 years, having arrived in the area with his young family in 1952.

Over his long and remarkable life, he has held nearly every office in the Methodist Church – in the district, the circuit and the local church. Within the church he has been treasurer, secretary, property steward, Sunday School leader, Youth Club leader, senior steward, steward, pastoral leader and much more. His MBE was presented by the now King Charles, for his work in the local community. We will never know all the outreach work John did as he worked quietly, without fuss day in, day out, supporting and upholding so many of us in his own inimitable way. This was shown on the day of John's funeral, at the celebration service of his life, when more than eighty friends attended, some coming a great distance to be there. John's great faith and trust sustained him every day of his 98 years of life.

We extend our condolences to his family and friends. We thank our Lord for John's life lived in Christ and we thank John for being there for all of us.

This benediction was one of John's favourite prayers. Very apt for us as we remember him with gratitude.

Go, and know the Lord goes with you;

Let him lead you each day into the quiet place of your heart and where he will speak with you;

Know that he loves you and watches over you, that he listens to you in gentle understanding, that he is with you always, wherever you are and however you may feel.

And may the Blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be yours forever. Amen.

Funeral of Doreen

What a fitting day it was when the church at the Crematorium was filled to overflowing for the service of committal and thanksgiving for our dear member and friend, Doreen. She had given her wishes for the service, which included the hymn, 'Abide with Me' and the beautiful hymn 'The world looks very beautiful to me'. The service was peaceful and gently moving. It was a joy for so many friends and relations to meet afterwards to share memories of the wonderful times we had with Doreen. Julie, Paul and Mike and all the family continue to be in our prayers.

Here are the words to the hymn, written by Anna Bartlett Warner, who was an American writer. She also wrote the hymn 'Jesus Loves me this I know'

1) The world looks very beautiful
And full of joy to me;
The sun shines out in glory
On everything I see;
I know I shall be happy
While in the world I stay
For I will follow Jesus
All the way

3) Then like a little pilgrim,
Whatever I may meet
I'll take it, joy or sorrow,
To lay at Jesus' feet
He'll comfort me in trouble;
He'll wipe my tears away;
With joy I'll follow Jesus
All the way

2) I'm but a little pilgrim
My journey's just begun;
They say I shall meet sorrow
Before my journey's done;
"The world is full of sorrow
and suffering", they say,
But I will follow Jesus,
All the way

4) Then trials cannot vex me,
And pain I need not fear,
For when I'm close by Jesus,
Grief cannot come too near,
Not even death can harm me;
When death I meet one day,
To heaven I'll follow Jesus
All the way

What wonderful words which reflect Doreen's outlook on life and her great faith and commitment throughout her life lived for the Lord.

Dates for your Diary

Nov 5th – the last day to bring items for the Shoe Box Appeal. The following week on **Nov 10th**, the shoe boxes will be prepared by members of the congregation and the children, for delivery to the drop off point. Thank you for your support. Please speak to Janet for further information.

Nov 12th- Remembrance Sunday

Nov 18th - Christmas Fayre at Church 11am – 1pm

Preparation will take place on Friday Nov 17th and from 9am of Sat Nov 18th. Please see Linda if you can help in any way in preparation and/or on the day. It is a joint effort with St. Andrews. Items for the stalls, gifts, pre-loved items in good condition, raffle prizes, will be gratefully received at church over the next few weeks. Please put up a poster if you can and spread the word to friends and neighbours to help make this a successful outreach day. Thank you

Nov 26th Gift Day for Wood Street Mission

This is our yearly, Christmas appeal for Wood Street Mission in Manchester. The gifts are distributed to local children and families who are in need of help at this time. The families go to the mission to choose gifts for their children. We are asked to donate for children aged 0-14 years old. Please give new toys, gifts, books which are unwrapped, chocolates, biscuits and selection boxes. Wrapping paper, gift tags and sellotape are also much appreciated. Financial donations are also welcome. In 2022, 3082 children had a Christmas to remember and 230 volunteers made this happen. Let us help this happen again 2023!

Advent Bible Study at Droylsden Methodist Church

We are invited to join Rev. Joy Rulton and Liz Stuart for four meetings on Thursdays; Nov 2nd, Nov 16th, Nov 30th and Dec 14th at 2:30pm.

Advent Posada

Posada means shelter or inn. It's a chance to host Mary and Joseph – to make room for Jesus at Christmas time. The figures of Mary and Joseph, (no baby Jesus, he hasn't been born yet), travel from house to house and are given shelter. On Christmas Eve the figures are returned to church, as everyone welcomes the Christ child once again.

Will you be a host to Mary and Joseph for a night? All you need to do is add your name to the journey rota at the back of the church for a night, (or nights), that will suit you to 'host' Mary & Joseph. You will need to arrange with the next host to move the figures to the next stage of their journey. Activities for children are included with it, but anyone can take part.

Preliminary Notice of December Activities

- On Dec 17th we will hold our Nativity Play at 11am
- On Dec 24th we will hold a Christingle Service at 11am

Such a lot going on in the next two months!

Birthdays

Wishing everyone born in November a very Happy Birthday. May you have a joy-filled day with love, hope and success. May your years ahead be full of happy moments, and uncountable blessings.

Next Magazine

The December Magazine will be available both on the website and in hardcopy. Everyone is welcome to make contributions by email to **marian.claytonmethodist@yahoo.co.uk** or to Elva by the 27th of November 2023. Thank you.

Over the coming months, we will include prayers from our young people that they have written for family worship services, which we all enjoy. It is so encouraging that so many of them take part and contribute to prayers for us all in our church community.

This is from Lily

"I would like to pray for my lovely Mum and Dad and baby brother, that God will look after them and keep them safe. I am grateful for my dog, Minnie. I would also like to pray for all the people who are my church friends and for all the people of the world. Amen"

November is a month for Remembrance in many different ways. This year especially, we long for peace – peace in our world and peace in our own hearts. May Peace Blossom.

Lord, we ask you to help our world at this time of great concern. May your spirit of peace inspire the hearts of leaders everywhere to find just solutions to the terrors that war brings. How we long that one day the desire for peace may root in people everywhere, that peace may blossom like flowers and spread its fragrance everywhere, so that we may rejoice and never despair but hold fast to our trust in You. We pray that the spirit of peace may spread everywhere. Amen (The Prayer Trust)

And now a verse from a hymn written by Marjorie Dobson for Remembrance Day
The sound of war still thunders
Through our planet, on this day.
Every hour new victims suffer
Even as we meet to pray
God, we need your help and guidance
In our constant search for peace.
Move us on to new solutions
As we pray that wars may cease.

A Poem for Late Autumn by John Darley.

Days are getting shorter;
Nights are growing cold
The landscape in the dying light
Is turned a burnished gold.
There's stillness and there's beauty
At Autumn's final phase,
It's colours now like embers
Coated by a frosty glaze

Lectionary notes for this month, Following on from last month

In the lectionary readings from Matthew Ch 25, there are the stories of three more parables of Jesus

- The parable of the ten virgins
- The parable of the talents
- The parable of the sheep and the goats

Do you now how many parables Jesus used to help the people understand what he was telling them?

One of the lectionary readings is Psalm 95 which begins;

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation

Let us come before him with thanksgiving

And extol him with music and song.

And Nov 22nd is the feast day of St Cecelia,

Who is the Patron saint of music and musicians.

St Cecelia lived in Rome around 200AD.

What a dreary world it would be without music and singing, which gives us such joy and what a privilege to sing praises to our Lord each week in worship.

Small Talk

- A seven-year-old boy, Finn, was drawing in his new pad, when his mother asked him to draw her. He looked around and said, 'I don't think you'll fit on the page, Mum!'
 - A four-year-old niece Katy was visiting and was watching her Auntie make trifle using custard powder. The little girl asked, 'what are you doing?' 'Making Bird's Custard' was the reply. Katy looked enchanted and asked 'Oh, can I give it to the birds?'
 - A young Year 2 boy was listening to his teacher who had a cold and a croaky throat that day. The boy asked, 'Miss, do you have a frog in your nose?'
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CHRISTMAS FAIR



Saturday 18th November

11am – 1pm

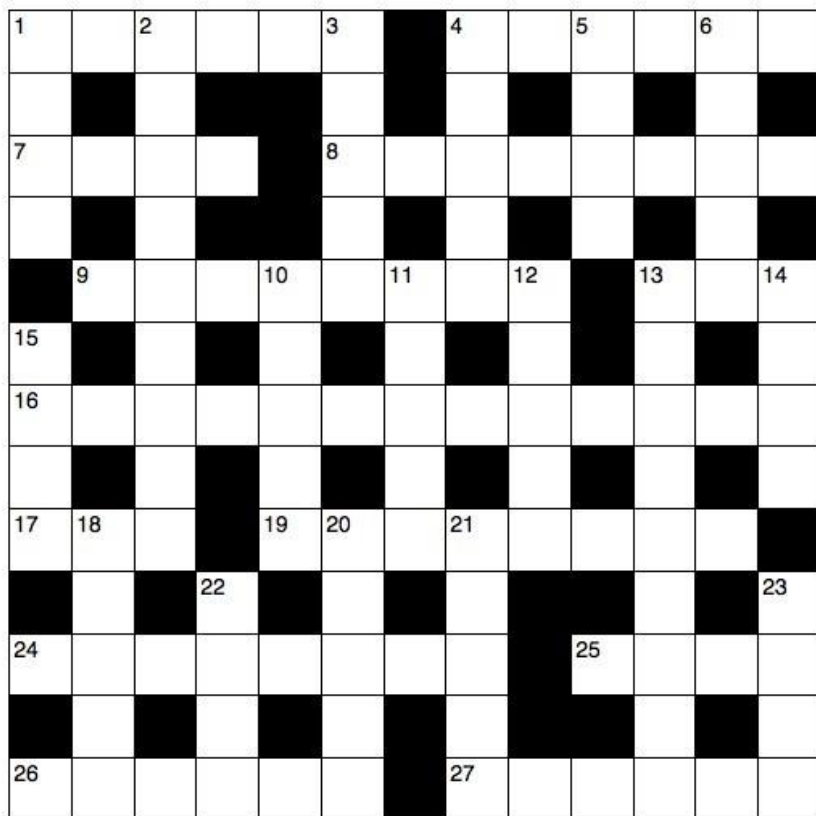
Entrance – 50p, Children – Free

In the Church of the Epiphany

Merton Drive/Edge Lane

M43 6BH





Clues Down

1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)

2 The part of the day when
Cornelius the Caesarean centurion
had avision of an angel of God (Acts
10:3) (9)

3 He was one of those who
returned with Zerubbabel from exile
in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah
7:7) (5)

4 'No one can see the kingdom of
God unless he is born — '(John 3:3)
(5)

5 Animal hunted or killed as food
(Ezekiel 22:25) (4)

6 'He encouraged them — —
remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23)
(3,2)

10 Ruses (anag.) (5)

11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)

12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)

13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)

14 'This is my — , which is for you;
do this in remembrance of me' (1
Corinthians 11:24) (4)

15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)

18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)

20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)

21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)

22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

Across

1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)

4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)

7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)

8 See 19 Across

9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest(Luke 9:46) (8)

13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)

16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)

17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)

24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)

25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)

26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)

27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a —
!' (John 2:16) (6)

